

MARAD Announces Two Additional Ship Disposal Contracts

Twelve Ship Disposal Contracts in Only Six Months Demonstrates Administration's Commitment to Getting the Job Done

Deputy Maritime Administrator John Jamian announced on December 20 disposal contracts for two more ships from the James River Reserve Fleet (JRRF). The announcement, which took place at the fleet, builds upon the progress made in the previous six months with contract awards on 10 "high-priority" ships. Additionally, since 2001, a total of 43 ships in the James River have been awarded contracts for disposal.

"Six months ago, we stood right here and promised that by the end of the year we would have disposal contracts on 10 'high-priority' ships. We've done it," said Jamian. "Not only do we have disposal contracts on all 10 of those ships, but we are now disposing of two additional ships."

Bay Bridge Enterprises of Chesapeake, Virginia, has been awarded the contract to dispose of the *Shirley Lykes* for \$860,000. The other ship, the *Neosho*, will go to International Shipbreaking Limited of Brownsville, Texas. The contract is for \$1.00, since higher steel prices and better ship conditions make it less costly to dismantle. Since 2001, 29 ships have been removed from the JRRF.

"All the high-priority ships available for disposal have either left this fleet or will be leaving in the coming weeks," said Jamian. "When it comes to the retired vessels floating on the James, it's a year of promises made, promises kept."



Deputy Maritime Administrator John Jamian announcing two additional ship disposal contracts at the JRRF.

*Photo by Fred Hoffmann
James River Reserve Fleet*

MARAD Update

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